

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claim 6 as shown below.

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A call processing method in a telecommunications system, the method comprising:
 - receiving a call placed by a calling party for a called party at a called communication station;
 - retrieving a subscriber profile which defines call screening information for the called party;
 - playing to the calling party one of a called party-provided greeting and a greeting announcement;
 - if a recorded name screening feature is active,
 - prompting the calling party for identification, and
 - recording the spoken identification provided by the calling party;
 - if the called party is engaged in a call, providing an announcement and entering a call waiting process;
 - otherwise, routing the call to a directory number in accordance with the subscriber profile;
 - playing to the called communication station one of a predefined announcement and the recorded spoken identification;
 - determining from the subscriber profile if caller ID screening is active for the called party;
 - if so, determining if a calling directory number is available for the call;
 - if so, providing the calling party directory number to the called communication station;

otherwise, if the calling directory number is unknown,
announcing an unavailable directory number to the
called communication station;
prompting the called party to enter a call routing option;
detecting a call routing option entered at the called communication
station;
if the entered call routing option corresponds to rejecting the call,
routing the call to a reject-call default destination; and
if the entered call routing option corresponds to accepting the call,
connecting the call between the calling party with the called
party.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining if the subscriber profile is valid.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
detecting a called directory number associated with the call;
determining if the called directory number is available; and
if the called directory number is not available, prompting the calling party to enter
a desired directory number.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
after playing a greeting to the calling party, determining if a screening list feature
is active;
if so, determining if a number associated with the calling party is available;
if so, determining if the number associated with the calling party is on a
screening list of the called party; and
if so, routing the call to a screening-list default destination.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

when the call is routed to one of the screening list default destination and the reject-call default destination,
determining if the default destination corresponds to a telephone number;
if so, playing an announcement to the calling party and directing the call to the telephone number;
otherwise, determining if the default destination corresponds to an announcement;
if so, playing the announcement and disconnecting the call;
otherwise, determining if the default destination corresponds to voice mail; and
if so, providing a voice mail announcement and routing the call to voice mail.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein playing to the called communication station one of a predefined announcement and the recorded spoken identification comprises:

determining if the recorded name screening feature is activated;
if not, connecting to the end office switch associated with the called communication station and providing the predefined announcement to the called communication station ~~from the platform~~;
if the recorded name screening feature is activated, determining if the recorded spoken identification is available,
if so, connecting to the end office switch which is associated with the called communication station and providing an announcement including the recorded spoken identification to the called communication station ~~from the platform~~, and
otherwise, connecting to the end office switch which is associated with the called communication station and providing an unknown caller announcement to the called communication station ~~from the platform~~.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

if caller ID screening is active for the called party; and if the calling directory number is unavailable, determining if the calling directory number is blocked;
if so, connecting to the end office switch which is associated with the called communication station and announcing a blocked directory number to the called communication station from the platform; and
otherwise, connecting to the end office switch which is associated with the called communication station and announcing an unknown directory number to the called communication station from the platform.

8. (Previously presented) A call processing method for a platform operating in a telecommunications system, the call processing method comprising:

receiving a call at the platform, the call placed by a calling party for a called party at a called communication station;
at the platform, retrieving a subscriber profile which defines call screening information for the called party;
playing to the calling party one of a called party-provided greeting and a greeting announcement;
determining from the subscriber profile if a screening list feature is active for the called party;
if so, determining if a number associated with the calling party is available;
if so, determining if the number associated with the calling party is on a screening list of the called party;
if so, routing the call to a default destination at the platform;
if the number associated with the calling party is not available or if the number associated with the calling party is not on the screening list,

determining from the subscriber profile if a recorded name screening feature is active for the called party;
if so, prompting the calling party for identification;
recording the spoken identification provided by the calling party;
determining status of the called party;
 if the called party is engaged in a call, providing an announcement and entering a call waiting process;
 otherwise, routing the call to a directory number in accordance with the subscriber profile;
directing network equipment able to communicate with the called communication station to play to the called communication station one of a predefined announcement and the recorded spoken identification;
determining from the subscriber profile if caller ID screening is active for the called party;
if so, determining if a calling directory number is available;
 if so, announcing the calling party directory number to the called communication station;
 otherwise, if the calling directory number is not unknown, announcing an unavailable directory number to the called communication station;
prompting the called party to accept or reject the call;
detecting a call routing option entered at the called communication station;
if the call routing option corresponds to rejecting the call, routing the call to a default destination; and
if the call routing option corresponds to accepting the call, connecting the call between the calling party with the called party.